

83^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 96

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 30 (legislative day, JUNE 27), 1953

MR. HICKENLOOPER (for himself, MR. KNOWLAND, MR. WILEY, MR. MUNDT, MR. FULBRIGHT, MR. GREEN, MR. GILLETTE, and MR. HILL) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

JOINT RESOLUTION

To strengthen the foreign relations of the United States by establishing a Commission on International Telecommunications.

Whereas the overseas information program as carried on through the media of telecommunications is of continuing and increasing importance in carrying out and supporting the foreign policies of the United States; and

Whereas in his State of the Union message, February 2, 1953, the President asserted the necessity "to make more effective all activities related to international information"; and

Whereas the Senate Special Subcommittee on Overseas Information Programs of the Foreign Relations Committee in a report filed June 15, 1953, concluded that "the feasibility of linking the Atlantic nations and much of the non-Com-

munist world * * * in vast television networks is established; and

Whereas the special subcommittee suggested the creation of a commission "to study the present status and the potentialities of the international use of all forms of telecommunications": Therefore be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That there is hereby established a commission to be known
4 as the Commission on International Telecommunications (in
5 this Act referred to as the "Commission").

6 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMISSION

7 SEC. 2. (a) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.--The Com-
8 mission shall be composed of nine members as follows:

9 (1) Five appointed by the President of the United
10 States, of whom at least one each shall be appointed
11 from the telecommunications industry and the field of
12 education;

13 (2) Two appointed from the Senate by the Presi-
14 dent of the Senate; and

15 (3) Two appointed from the House of Represent-
16 atives by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

17 (b) POLITICAL AFFILIATION.--Of the first class of
18 members mentioned in subsection (a), no more than three
19 members shall be from the same political party. Of the

1 second and third classes of members mentioned in subsection
2 (a) only one member shall be selected from the same
3 political party.

4 ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION

5 SEC. 3. The Commission shall choose its Chairman and
6 Vice Chairman from among its members and shall estab-
7 lish its own procedure.

8 QUORUM

9 SEC. 4. Five members of the Commission shall con-
10 stitute a quorum.

11 COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

12 SEC. 5. (a) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—Members of
13 Congress who are members of the Commission shall serve
14 without compensation in addition to that received for their
15 services as Members of Congress; but they shall be reim-
16 bursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses
17 incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested
18 in the Commission.

19 (b) MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.—Any
20 members of the Commission who may be in the executive
21 branch of the Government shall receive the compensation
22 which he would receive if he were not a member of the
23 Commission, but they shall be reimbursed for travel, sub-
24 sistence and other necessary expenses incurred by them in
25 the performance of the duties vested in the Commission.

1 (c) MEMBERS FROM PRIVATE LIFE.—The members
2 from private life shall receive not to exceed \$75 per diem
3 when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the
4 Commission, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and
5 other necessary expenses incurred by them in the perform-
6 ance of such duties.

7 STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

8 SEC. 6. The Commission shall have power to appoint
9 a Secretary General at a salary of not to exceed \$15,000
10 and an Assistant Secretary General at a salary of not to
11 exceed \$12,500, and such other personnel in accordance
12 with the Classification Act of 1949, as amended, or to obtain
13 assistance from Government agencies on a reimbursable
14 basis. The Commission is further authorized to employ ex-
15 perts and consultants for temporary and intermittent per-
16 sonal services, but at rates not to exceed \$75 per diem for
17 individuals. The Commission is authorized to reimburse
18 employees, experts, and consultants for travel, subsistence,
19 and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the per-
20 formance of their official duties and to make reasonable
21 advances to such persons for such purposes.

22 EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION

23 SEC. 7. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated,
24 out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated,

1 not to exceed \$25,000 to carry out the provisions of this
2 Act.

3 REPORT—EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION

4 SEC. 8. (a) REPORT.—On or before _____,
5 the Commission shall make a report of its findings and recom-
6 mendations to the Congress.

7 (b) EXPIRATION OF THE COMMISSION.—Ninety days
8 after the submission to the Congress of the report provided
9 for in subsection (a) of this section 8, the Commission shall
10 cease to exist.

11 DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

12 SEC. 9. The Commission is directed to examine, study,
13 and report on the subject of international telecommunica-
14 tions and to recommend agreements, policies, and measures
15 which will stimulate the development and the effective use
16 of this media in fostering cooperation and mutual understand-
17 ing among the free nations of the world.

18 Without limiting the general scope of this direction, the
19 work of the Commission shall include consideration of, and
20 report on, the following matters:

21 (1) Present status of the use of the international air-
22 waves in the information programs of this country and other
23 nations of the world.

24 (2) Present status of the use of television in the infor-

1 mation programs of this country and other nations of the
2 world.

3 (3) Possibilities of the expanded use of television in
4 carrying out the purposes of Public Law 402 (Eightieth
5 Congress).

6 (4) Possibilities of international cooperation, both gov-
7 ernmental and private, in the construction, maintenance and
8 operation of facilities to link the free nations of the world
9 in an effective international telecommunications' (including
10 television) network.

11 POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

12 SEC. 10. (a) The Commission or, on the authorization
13 of the Commission, any subcommittee or member thereof,
14 shall have power to hold hearings and sit and act at such
15 places in the United States and abroad and at such times,
16 to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of such
17 witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and
18 documents, to administer such oaths, to take such testimony,
19 and to make such lawful expenditures as the Commission
20 or such subcommittee or member may deem advisable. Sub-
21 penas shall be issued under the signature of the Chairman
22 of the Commission and shall be served by any person desig-
23 nated by him.

24 (b) The Commission is authorized to secure from any
25 department, agency, or independent instrumentality of the

1 Government any information it deems necessary to carry
2 out its functions under this Act; and each such department,
3 agency, and instrumentality is authorized and directed to
4 furnish such information to the Commission, upon request
5 made by the Chairman or by the Vice Chairman when acting
6 as Chairman.

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